

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 06241 021720Z
ACTION H-03

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R 021702Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4789
INFO OSD/LA
OSAF/SAFLL
DA/SACLL
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (NAVY)

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, SP
SUBJECT: CODEL BURTON

REF: MADRID 5642 (DTG 192010Z MAY 78)

1. CODEL BURTON (CONGRESSMEN BURTON, WILSON, CLAWSON, CORRADA AND GARCIA) VISITED MADRID MAY 27-31. THEY MET WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL FIGURES, INCLUDING THE KING, THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/ DEFENSE MINISTER, THE UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CORTES, FELIPE GONZALEZ AND ENRIQUE MUGICA OF THE SOCIALIST PSOE, IGNACIO CAMUNAS AND RAFAEL ARIAS SALGADO OF THE GOVERNING UCD, AND GREGORIO LOPEZ BRAVO OF THE CONSERVATIVE AP. THEY ALSO VISITED THE U.S.- SPANISH COMBINED MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING STAFF AND TORREJON AIR BASE.

2. THREE SEPTELS COVER THE SUBSTANCE OF IN-DEPTH TALKS WHICH WERE HELD ABOUT POSSIBLE SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MILITARY ASPECTS OF THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION, AND THE SPANISH POLITICAL
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CALENDAR. WE BELIEVE THE CODEL LEFT PLEASED WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR DETAILED CONVERSATIONS WITH SPANISH LEADERS; WE FOR OUR PART REGARD THEIR VISIT TO HAVE BEEN OF PARTICULAR VALUE FOR U.S. INTERESTS HERE.

3. CONGRESSMAN BURTON AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CODEL SEEMED PARTICULARLY PLEASED BY WHAT THEY TOOK TO BE A

COMMITMENT GAINED FROM THE PSOE'S GONZALEZ TO SEND SOMEONE TO THE NAA PLENARY IN LISBON IN NOVEMBER (THE PSOE HAS PREVIOUSLY REFUSED TO SEND OBSERVERS TO THE NAA SESSIONS).

4. THE CODEL WAS VERY WARMLY RECEIVED BY THE KING, WHO RECALLED HIS PLEASURE AT EARLIER VISITS TO THE U.S., IN PARTICULAR THE SUPPORT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN DURING HIS OFFICIAL VISIT OF TWO YEARS AGO. TO CONGRESSMEN CORRADA AND GARCIA HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT HE WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT PUERTO RICO, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN HE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO SO. EATON

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